

NATO Partners Across the Globe Play Critical Role in International Security

NATO's founders based the Alliance on a truth that remains the underlying principle today: We are stronger, together. Over the last 65 years the Alliance has proven time and again that the most effective and efficient effort is a coordinated response. NATO partnerships strengthen the Alliance by adding critical diversity and insight while expanding NATO's global security reach. On April 14, 2011, NATO Foreign Ministers in Berlin formalized on-going relationships with eight of the Alliance's most wide-ranging Partners across the Globe: Afghanistan, Australia, Iraq, Japan, the Republic of Korea, New Zealand and Pakistan. Mongolia has since joined as well.



While we mark the third anniversary of NATO's youngest group of partners, we underscore NATO's longer and on-going history of mutual cooperation and assistance with the Partners Across the Globe. They have participated in training exercises to improve interoperability and contributed to peacekeeping operations in Bosnia/Kosovo. They have stood shoulder-to-shoulder in Afghanistan in combat operations, security forces training, critical logistics and provincial capacity building; and they have strengthened anti-piracy efforts in Operation Ocean Shield. Other areas of practical collaboration include civil emergency planning and disaster response; antiterrorism and border security, intelligence sharing and cyber defense capacity building.

By working with these partners, NATO has gained additional forces, additional insights and perspectives, and additional political support in the international arena.

Together, the Alliance and these partners increase stability, counter threats to peace, and build durable, agile and forward-looking security relationships. We know that security threats today recognize no borders or national boundaries. By working with like-minded nations around the globe, NATO is able to play its part in safeguarding our own security, and helping other nations secure their own.

